

PRODUCTION

5-10

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## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Walt Rostow Request for Study of North Vietnamese Manpower

1. At Walt Rostow's request we have undertaken to reassess the manpower situation in North Vietnam. An outline of the proposed study will be prepared by Friday and the final report will be submitted to Mr. Rostow during the first week of January.

2. The study will be a complete reassessment of North Vietnam's manpower resources and the manpower drain. It will include an analysis of the labor force; the impact of diversions to the military and war-related activities such as logistics and bomb damage repair; evidence of changes in mobilization programs and evaluation of reports of labor shortages. These factors will be evaluated to assess the current manpower situation within the existing ranges of estimates of North Vietnam's population. Finally, the North Vietnamese manpower situation will be compared with that in Germany during World War II in order to determine that point at which the manpower drain in North Vietnam might be regarded as critical.

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